Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _16 November 2001_ .

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _143-161_ is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _143-161_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on _13 October 1998_ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .   6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 143 – 161 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Klingler (pat. # 5,404,316) and Langford (pat. # 5,206,929).

Claims 143 and 153 are rejected. Klingler demonstrates a method for processing

clip data (fig. 5). This processing falls within the definition of editing. The claim

language fails to provide an explanation of the type of clip editing intended by the

applicant. Klingler teaches a user selecting editing, composing, or applying effects to

clips (col. 16, lines 57 - 70). The special effects library describe herein teaches a

method for applying effects to clips. The language of the claims fails to explain or

define the type of editing, composing, or applying a special effect to plurality of clips.

Klingler at least suggest or teach, "selectively performing at least one of editing,

composing, or applying a special effect to said plurality of clips" as taught by the

Applicant. Klingler teaches begin time clips and end time data (fig. 9, #152, #154).

Klingler at least suggest or teach a "managing means for managing information

pertaining to relations between the resultant clip and the plurality of clips, said

information at lest indicating from which of said plurality of clips said resultant clip is

produced" as taught by the Applicant. Klingler teaches a window for managing and processing clip data (fig. 9). This window is a, "control means for controlling said plurality of modules based on said information managed by said managing means." Klinger teach a resultant clip because doing so directs the user to the clip wherein the result can be viewed and displayed (fig. 11). This preview window is a method wherein a result can be viewed and displayed.

Klingler fails to teach the use of modules. Langford teaches a plurality of modules information managing by said managing means (fig. 8; col. 6, lines 55 – 70). It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the clip editing system taught by Klingler with the editing system using modules disclosed by Langford because doing so allows for assigning software operations to specific modular apparatuses.

Claims 144 and 154 are rejected. Klingler provides a directory access for accessing data related to the various clips, effects, etc. (fig. 15, #214, #216). Such buttons suggest the presences of a database for accessing event and clip data. Klingler at least teaches or suggests, "a managing means that includes a database for registering information for each of said plurality of clips" as taught by the Applicant.

Claims 145 and 155 are rejected. Klingler teach obtaining data from a source for viewing by a user (fig. 15, #211, #213). This is information indicating a second clip being produced from a first clip. Any type of copying of data is information indicating a second clip being produced from a first clip. The claim language does not require that

the said second clip be a subset of the first clip. The only requirement is that the

second clip includes some data that is based on the data found in the first clip.

Claims 146 and 156 are rejected. Klingler teaches special effect operations and

other editing functions (col. 16, lines 57 - 70). Such operations suggest a plurality of

modules comprising, "an edit module for editing said plurality of clips, a composite

module for composing said clips, and a special effect module for applying a special

effect to said clips" as taught by the applicant.

Claim 147 is rejected. The technology taught or suggested in Klinger (fig. 15) by

claim 146 represents the "display means for displaying a graphical user interface

respectively representing said editing module, composite module, and said special

effect module on a display" taught by the applicant. The Applicant fails to define the

type of graphics or the type of display used in the displaying of these modules. The

claim language provides no explanation regarding the display of the said modules and

no indication whether the modules themselves are even to be displayed.

Claims 148 and 157 are rejected. Klinger teaches a preview area wherein the

user can view resultant graphical data (fig. 15, #213, #154). Such a preview area is a

method for providing "module identification information indicating which of said plurality

of processing modules is used to duce said resultant clip" as taught by the Applicant.

Claims 149 and 158 are rejected. Klinger teaches a control means controlling

said plurality of modules based on said information registered in said database (fig. 15,

#214, #216). Any menu is a control means for controlling the information registered in

the database. The claim language fails to define or explain the type of control intended

by the Applicant.

Claims 150 and 159 are rejected. The preview area taught by claim 148 and

suggested by Klinger suggest or teach a control means that updates "content of a first

resultant clip registered in the database, and updates content of resultant clips

produced from the said resultant clip."

Claims 151 and 160 are rejected. Klingler demonstrates moving of effect data

into a "movie" or other entity representing a clip (col. 10, lines 30 – 40). This operation

essentially overwrites content of a first resultant clip registered in the database with

content of a new resultant clip, and updates the content of resultant clips produced from

said first resultant clip.

Claims 152 and 161 are rejected. Klingler teaches a control means storing said

overwritten content of said first resultant clips produced from said first resultant clip (col.

10, lines 30 – 40). All data must be stored in the database.

Response to Amendment

3.   The Applicant cancels claims 1 – 142 and adds claims 143 – 158. The

Examiner objected to the drawings. This provides an appropriate response to the

objection to the drawings; therefore, the said objection to the drawings is withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to the specification due to issues found related to the abstract.

The Applicant provides the appropriate response overcoming the said objection to the

specification. The said objection to the specification is therefore withdrawn.

Conclusion

4.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas J Joseph whose telephone number is 703-305-2277. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on 703-308-3116. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-

3900.

tjj

December 6, 2001

RAYMOND J. BAYERL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2173